

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-14 (cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) ~~The electric vehicle according to claim 14, wherein said~~ An electric vehicle comprising:

a motor which is to drive wheels of said vehicle;

a driving apparatus for driving said motor; and

a battery for powering said motor,

wherein said motor comprises

(i) a rotor having an axis of rotation, and also having a first interior permanent magnet including at least two magnet pieces separated from one another, along a plane that is parallel to the axis of rotation, by epoxy resin ~~has~~ having a thickness of at least 0.03 mm,

(ii) a stator having teeth wound by concentrated windings, and

(iii) at least one other interior permanent magnet circumferentially spaced from and adjacent said first interior permanent magnet and including at least two magnet pieces separated from one another by epoxy resin having a thickness of at least 0.03 mm, with each of said first interior permanent magnet and said at least one other interior permanent magnet having an N pole and an S pole, with said first interior permanent magnet having its N pole facing said stator and said at least one other interior magnet having its S pole facing said stator.

16. (Currently Amended) ~~The electric vehicle according to claim 13, wherein said~~ An electric vehicle comprising:

a motor which is to drive wheels of said vehicle;

a driving apparatus for driving said motor; and

a battery for powering said motor,

wherein said motor comprises

(i) a rotor having an axis of rotation, and also having a first interior permanent magnet including at least two magnet pieces separated from one another, along a plane that is parallel to the axis of rotation, by epoxy resin ~~has~~ having a thickness of at least 0.03 mm, and

(ii) a stator having teeth wound by concentrated windings.

Claim 17 (Cancelled)

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and following remarks, reconsideration and further examination are requested.

Claims 1-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, for containing new matter. Claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miller et al. in view of Nishiyama et al. Claims 7-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miller et al. and Nishiyama et al. and further in view of Fukuno et al. Claims 12-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miller et al. and Nishiyama et al. and further in view of Shibukawa. Claims 1 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim in view of Nishiyama et al. Claims 1-11 and 17 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-4 of U.S. Patent No. 6,340,857. And, the Examiner stated that claims 15 and 16 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Accordingly, without acquiescing to the appropriateness of the prior art and double patenting rejections issued by the Examiner, and solely to further advance prosecution of this application, claims 15 and 16 have been rewritten in independent form, while the 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, issue has been addressed.

With regard to the 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, rejection please note that in place of the objected to phrase “along a plane that does not extend traverse to the axis of rotation” the following phrase has been substituted, --along a plane that is parallel to the axis of rotation--.

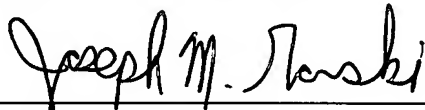
Also, claims 1-14 and 17 have been cancelled.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance, with the allowed claims being 15 and 16, and an early Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

If after reviewing this Amendment, the Examiner believes that any issues remain which must be resolved before the application can be passed to issue, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative by telephone to resolve such issues.

Respectfully submitted,

Noriyoshi NISHIYAMA et al.

By: 
Joseph M. Gorski
Registration No. 46,500
Attorney for Applicants

JMG/edg
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021
Telephone (202) 721-8200
Facsimile (202) 721-8250
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